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sequently unable to supply bail, were detained in the county jail for from 10 to 230 days. Thus they came into contact with hardened criminals who teach them the ways of crime and stir them to the point of ambition to plunge more deeply than before into the ways of the professional criminal.

In the section on probation and recidivism the author has incorporated his Table 15 in which he details in parallel columns the cases of 20 boys on probation, aged 16, 17, 18, and 19 years. This table illustrates the character of information secured in each of 200 probationary cases. The average age of the 200 is 17 years, 6 months. Sixty-three per cent of the whole had a previous court record, mostly in the Juvenile Court.

Probation, says the author, is not intended to be sentimental leniency. It is not intended to weaken the power of the Court, but to humanize it. It is as much a part of judicial procedure as to sentence a boy to a penal institution. It is not the alternative of a sentence; it is in itself a sentence. The boy on probation is still a ward of the court. Probation does not tend to increase recidivism, but to decrease it. The evidence brought forward in this study indicates that there is a larger proportion of recidivism among institution cases than among probationers. This portion of the investigation has brought to light the fact that the largest number of boys placed upon probation in any year of the court's history has been but 12 per cent of the total number of cases heard, and the average for four years $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. On the other hand, the average of discharged cases for the four years has been 56 per cent, and during one year it ran as high as 67 per cent. This leads Dr. Beck to the proposition that far from too many cases being placed upon probation, the truth is that not enough are so treated.

The pamphlet concludes with recommendations that the probation department should have improved and larger machinery. That probation officers should be more carefully selected; that they should receive larger pay in order that the right type of men and women may be encouraged to go into the service; that the mentally defective group should be discovered in the schools before delinquent career is begun, and that those so discovered should be isolated; that the psychopathic laboratory of the court should be enlarged in its equipment and opportunity, and that it should popularize its work through the elimination of technical and professional reports and in other ways. Education for citizenship and occupation, the provision of farm colonies for defectives and for first offenders all will contribute their share toward the prevention and correction of crime.

This is one of the most thorough-going studies of its sort that has appeared within recent years and the Department of Public Welfare, together with its investigators, are to be congratulated upon their successful contribution. It would be of greater educational value to the public if much of its data were presented in charts as well as in statistical tables and if the tables were introduced by more generous descriptive titles.—R. H. G.

Recommendations of the Juvenile Protective Association of Chicago Re Junk Dealing—"Municipalization."—A year's study of the situation has served to deepen the conviction that the only effective means of eliminating this source of juvenile demoralization is to "municipalize" the junk business. If the purchase of junk were confined to stationary establishments which like saloons, pool rooms, or motion picture theaters, possess elements of stability,

some satisfactory system of surveillance and inspection might perhaps be worked out. But with 1,700 peddlers daily scattering their wagons throughout the whole city, any effectual scheme of supervision is impossible. This wide geographical distribution of the business, coupled with the ignorance and unscrupulousness of many dealers, foreshadow the futility of any licensing plan that might be proposed. The essential element in this child corrupting enterprise is economic. The boy collects and sells his stuff for a few pennies, which will afford him some desired pleasure. The dealer illegally buys the junk, impelled by the motive of personal gain. To substitute the idea of *municipal service* for the notion of *individual* profit appears to be the only means of making the junk business morally innocuous to juveniles.

This plan is not as radical a departure as one might think at first. For several years Chicago has collected and handled junk belonging to the city. A report from Mr. Joseph Siman, Superintendent of the House of Correction, says: "Scrap and junk from the various departments is brought to this institution, where it is sorted and put in commercial shape to be disposed of to the best advantage. All old material, unused machinery, wagons, automobiles, furniture, etc., is collected and brought here, much of which is repaired and placed at the disposal of the city again for use. We also collect waste paper from city buildings, rags and old tin cans from the garbage reduction plant, which is also being disposed of to good advantage. This system of handling the junk for the city is a successful one and has been found to be very advantageous to the city." Apart from legal objections, there seems to be no good reason why Chicago should not perfect a plan for the collection and disposition of other junk much as it collects and disposes of garbage, which was formerly sold to a private concern, but which is now reduced at the municipal plant. In addition to decreasing juvenile crime, this plan would greatly swell the revenues of the city, which have been impaired by the closing of saloons.

Precedents for such a practice are found in other cities. The reports of the United States Department of Commerce make mention of various places where the collection of waste material has been undertaken with good results by municipalities. Report No. 275 cites the experience of Glasgow, Scotland, where a cleansing department for the collection and utilization of waste-products has been in successful operation for 17 years. From waste paper alone, the city derived nearly \$44,000 profit in 10 years, the revenue rising from \$3,010.00 in 1907-08 to \$13,590.00 in 1916-17. "It is reliably estimated that the total value of the paper collected during the present financial year will reach \$50,000." Volunteer organizations of women aid in the collection of this paper, receiving 20 per cent of the revenue derived from the paper so collected. All waste paper is sold to paper stock merchants in the condition in which it is collected.

A somewhat similar system is in operation in Edinburgh, according to Report No. 192. Here the collection which was formerly in the hands of a local agency was taken over by the city in May, 1914. In the year ending May 15th, 1917, the municipal revenue from waste paper collected and sold was \$10,775.00 with receipts constantly increasing. During the two months to July 15th, 1917, the city derived a net profit of \$5,870.00 from this source.

Report No. 86 details the English experience in collecting organic waste of both animal and vegetable origin. The most spectacular example was that of the Quartermasters' Department in utilizing camp waste from which

glycerin was made. "While the English-made glycerin was \$282.00 per ton, the United States fixed their figure at \$1,168.00 per ton. . . . In January of this year, the weekly amount (returned to the army for camp refuse) increased to \$46,232.00, representing approximately \$2,433,250.00 annually returned to the army for waste rations. The production of glycerin from these waste camp products enabled the Ministry of Munitions to dispense with over 1,000 tons of foreign glycerin at a saving in cost of \$875,970.00."

The municipality of Hornsey, England, devised a practical and profitable method of utilizing empty cans. Report No. 141 states that "an important advantage of the process seems to be that it can be carried on with very little additional expense by municipalities that maintain an incinerator for the destruction of waste material. . . . As adopted by the Hornsey Town Council, the process involved only a comparatively nominal capital outlay under \$1,000.00."

Even the backward Orient seems more progressive in this respect than American cities. Report No. 197 outlines the Formosan practice of utilizing empty oil cans. While a large quantity of these tins were discarded at Seattle, Wash., as of no value, they were selling in Taiwan at about 20c each. In 1916, the Taiwan Government Monopoly Bureau purchased 4,000 of these 5 gallon tins, which are converted into scores of useful articles.

A quasi-municipal system is in successful operation in Pittsburgh, where both junk and garbage are collected by a private concern under contract to the city. Not only does the municipality reap substantial revenues from this plan, but according to officers of the State Humane Society, the purchase of junk from children for commercial profit is almost entirely absent and juvenile delinquency from that angle is negligible.

That the war has brought about a centralizing tendency in the collection of junk seems clear. The attempts of the American Red Cross and other agencies in various municipalities in this field constitute additional evidence on this point. The largest general movement in this direction appears to be that initiated by the War Prison Labor and National Waste Reclamation Section of the War Industries Board. Under date of November 6th, 1918, a letter from the Executive Secretary states, "Will say that we are organizing a waste reclamation council in every city and town in the United States. The Councils are composed of representatives from the following organizations, selected by the Mayor:

"Council of National Defense.

"American Federation of Labor.

"American Red Cross.

"National Y. M. C. A.

"National Catholic War Council.

"Jewish Welfare Board, U. S. Army and Navy.

"Federal Board of Farm Organizations.

"Farmers' National Headquarters.

"National Committee of Women.

"National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor.

"It will be the aim of the Council to devise ways and means for the collection of all waste material in its community, . . . the intent being that the work of the local council formed in the different cities will be such as to point out the necessity *for each city* to reclaim their own waste material, the

same as they now collect garbage. We believe that the work of these councils will show the profit that will accrue to the city; by doing so they will make it—the salvage of waste materials, a business proposition for each city engaged in such work.”

Whether the cessation of the war has caused the abandonment of the above plan is not known.

Now is the logical time for Chicago to consider the advisability of instituting a municipal system for the collection and disposition of junk, both as a means of preventing crime and as an effective plan for raising large revenues. Under its present statutory limitations, such a municipal system is probably unauthorized by law. The approaching constitutional convention should, however, afford the opportunity of granting Chicago sufficient authority to undertake this work.—From the report. See editorial by Mr. Hunter in this number.

Dr. McCord, Instructor in Cornell.—Dr. Clinton P. McCord, Health Director, Board of Education, Albany, New York, Instructor in Educational Hygiene in the Albany Medical College, and Consulting Psychiatrist at the Berkshire Industrial Farm at Canaan, N. Y., has been appointed professor of Hygiene and Physical Diagnosis in the Cornell University Summer School of Physical Education, in session July 7 to August 16. Dr. McCord has from time to time made valuable contributions to this JOURNAL.—R. H. G.

Death of Mr. Theodore Kytka, Identification Expert.—Mr. Theodore Kytka of San Francisco, Identification Expert, died recently in his laboratory in San Francisco. He had been active for more than twenty-five years in the field of questioned documents and the scientific investigation of problems in criminal investigation and identification requiring the resources of the laboratory. He achieved his earliest successes in Chicago in connection with the trials of the perpetrators of the famous Haymarket riots. He has been a constant protagonist of a high standard of treatment of hand-writing problems and expert testimony and he has done much to eliminate the feeling of distrust which has been sometimes brought to bear on testimony of this character by poorly qualified investigators. In the later years of his life he devoted a great deal of time and attention to the methods of operation and detection of the black hand and similar organizations. He was frequently threatened in his life and property. Among other interesting discoveries which he made was a method of transferring finger prints from one object to another; a discovery which, while it did not affect the value of finger prints as a means of identification, was nevertheless of such importance as to render of somewhat doubtful value the latent prints discovered at the scene of crime as a basis of identification.

Mr. Kytka gave his services freely to the government during the war in all manner of investigations connected with the use of the mails as a means of furthering spy activities. He prepared for the use of the secret service a monograph on sympathetic inks and their methods of discovery which was greatly appreciated and widely used among secret service officers.

In the course of his life Mr. Kytka accumulated a magnificent laboratory in San Francisco.—E. O. Heinrich, Boulder, Colorado.